

Organics Recycling

Composting is a natural process of recycling nutrients back into the soil to be used again. Compost is a dark, crumbly mixture that is mostly made up of decayed organic matter such as leaves and grass clippings. One of the most abundant sources of compost is food waste, from uneaten leftovers or spoiled produce.



What are some benefits of composting?

- Composting organic materials such as yard trimmings and food scraps reduces the amount of waste that ends up in landfills or combustion facilities. The EPA estimates about 95 percent of the food we throw away ends up at these facilities.
- Adding compost to the soil provides valuable nutrients, improves soil structure, adds beneficial soil micro-organisms and attracts earthworms, suppresses certain plant diseases, reduces the need for fertilizers and pesticides, and helps prevent soil erosion and nutrient run-off.
- Organic waste in landfills generates methane, a potent greenhouse gas. By composting food scraps and other organics, methane emissions are significantly reduced.

Interested in purchasing a compost bin?

The Dutchess County Division of Solid Waste Management sells [backyard compost bins](#). For more information contact our office at (845) 463-6020 or email us at solidwastemgmt@dutchessny.gov

